



COUNTY OF KAUAI

News Release

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Kaua'i Community Drug Response Plan now available online

LĪHU'E – The Kaua'i Community Drug Response Plan 2015-2020 is now available on the county's website at <http://www.kauai.gov/liveschoiceskauai>.

The five-year plan uses a multi-pronged approach that focuses on prevention, enforcement, treatment and community integration, and builds upon the foundation laid by Life's Choices Kaua'i, the Mayor's Advisory Committees on Prevention, Enforcement, Treatment and Community Integration, and other community partners.

"The latest Kaua'i Community Drug Response Plan reflects our ongoing commitment to address the serious drug problems that continue to threaten the safety of our youth, families and community," said Mayor Bernard Carvalho, Jr.

The first drug response plan came out in 2003 after the late Mayor Bryan Baptiste's initial efforts to bring people together to combat substance abuse, dependence and addiction issues.

"This is a serious challenge and we must continue to work together. Too often we have seen the devastating effects drug abuse has on our children and families," said Life's Choices Kaua'i Coordinator Theresa Koki. "If this matter isn't addressed, we will be faced with increasing suicides, juvenile delinquency and criminality, family violence, homelessness, and other impacts."

The mayor noted that the advisory committee teams have worked hard over the years to meet the needs of Kaua'i's families and children in a comprehensive and well-coordinated manner.

“It’s a very complex problem and the teams have made it their mission to provide individuals and families across the island with opportunities for long- and short-term success,” said Mayor Carvalho. “I want to thank the dedicated members of the advisory committees and our community partners, who have helped us to move closer to realizing our dream of eliminating the insidious drug problem, promoting positive outcomes, and enhancing the quality of life for all of the residents of Kaua’i and Niihau.”

The overall goal of the drug response plan is to unite the community to resist substance abuse, to support the enforcement of anti-drug laws, and to encourage treatment supported by a continuum of care for the healing and reunification of individuals and families with the community.

For more information, please contact Koki at tkoki@kauai.gov or 241-4925.



Mayor Bernard Carvalho, Jr. speaks to the members of the Drug Action Team, expressing his appreciation for their efforts to combat drug abuse on Kaua’i and asking for their continuing commitment to address this serious problem.



The chairs and vice chair of the subcommittees of the Drug Action Team (DAT) pose for a photo after its annual meeting, where each team shared what they accomplished over the last year and the Kaua’i Community Drug Response Plan 2015-2020 was unveiled. DAT is comprised of volunteers on three committees, Prevention, Treatment and Community Integration, and Enforcement. From L to R: Maile Murray, Treatment & Community Integration Chair; Russell Goo, Enforcement Chair; Leialoha Sanchez, Prevention Chair; Vonn Ramos, Treatment & Community Integration Vice Chair; and Theresa Koki, Life’s Choice Kaua’i Coordinator.